

U.S. Serial Application No.: 10/635,983
Attorney Docket No.: C-7220
Response to Office Action mailed 07/11/2005

Listing of the Claims

The listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A process for preparation of an organic compound selected from the group consisting of C₁ to C₆ carboxylic acids, ketones having boiling points from 154°C to 170°C, and esters having boiling points from about 168°C to about 250°C, comprising combining the organic compound with water to form a mixture of the organic compound and water comprising from about 100 ppm to about 50,000 ppm water, wherein the organic compound has a stable APHA color value of 15 or less.

2. (original) The process of claim 1 wherein the water and organic compound are combined at a temperature of about 0°C to about 160°C

3. (original) The process of claim 2 wherein the water is combined with the organic compound under conditions of agitation.

4. (currently amended) The process of claim 3 wherein the organic compound has a stable APHA color value of [15] 12 or less.

5. (original) The process of claim 4 wherein the organic compound is a C₁ to C₆ carboxylic acid.

6. (original) The process of claim 5 wherein the carboxylic acid is butyric acid.

7. (original) The process of claim 6 wherein the mixture of butyric acid and the water comprises from 100 ppm to about 10,000 ppm water.

8. (original) The process of claim 7 wherein the water and organic compound are combined at a temperature of about 20°C to about 50°C

9. (original) The process of claim 8 wherein the mixture of butyric acid and the water comprises from 500 ppm to about 1,000 ppm water.

10. (original) A process for preparation of an organic compound, having a stable APHA color value of 15, or less selected from the group consisting of C₁ to C₆ carboxylic acids, ketones having boiling points from 154°C to 170°C, and esters having boiling points from about 168°C to about 250°C, comprising removing a product stream comprising the organic compound from a reaction zone in which the organic compound is prepared and introducing the product stream into a distillation column having a lower

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portion and an upper portion wherein the upper portion and the lower portion are maintained at a temperature of about 23°C to about 250°C and at a pressure of about 10.1 kPa to about 202.6 kPa.

11. (original) The process of claim 10 wherein the organic compound is a C₁ to C₆ carboxylic acid.

12. (original) The process of claim 11 wherein the carboxylic acid is butyric acid.

13. (original) The process of claim 12 wherein the distillation column is operated at a temperature of about 170°C to about 180°C and at a pressure of about 101 kPa to about 202 kPa.

14. (original) A process for preparation of an organic compound, having a stable APHA color value of 15 or less, selected from the group consisting of C₁ to C₆ carboxylic acids, ketones having boiling points from 154°C to 170°C, and esters having boiling points from about 168°C to about 250°C comprising: (a) removing a product stream comprising the organic compound from a reaction zone in which the organic compound is prepared; (b) introducing the product stream into a distillation column having a lower portion and an upper portion wherein the upper portion and the lower portion are maintained at a temperature of about 23°C to about 250°C and at a pressure of about 10.1 kPa to about 202.6 kPa to recover the organic compound; and (c) combining the recovered organic compound with water to form a mixture of the organic compound and water comprising from about 100 ppm to about 50,000 ppm water.

15. (original) The process of claim 14 wherein the water and organic compound are combined at a temperature of about 0°C to about 160°C

16. (original) The process of claim 15 wherein the water is combined with the organic compound under conditions of agitation.

17. (original) The process of claim 16 wherein the organic compound is a C₁ to C₆ carboxylic acid.

18. (original) The process of claim 17 wherein the carboxylic acid is butyric acid.

19. (original) The process of claim 18 wherein the water and the butyric acid are combined at a temperature of about 20°C to about 50°C and the mixture of butyric acid and the water comprises from 100 ppm to about 10,000 ppm.

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20. (original) The process of claim 19 wherein the mixture of butyric acid and the water comprises from 500 ppm to about 1,000 ppm water.